‘WHO’ IS THAT NEW DOCTOR?

THIS TIME HE’S SCOTTISH (AT LAST!)

PAGE 24

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THE SECOND DEADLY ‘SIN’

Killing time. “Sin City: A Dame to Kill For” follows up a surprise hit from nearly a decade ago. Jessica Alba talks about how it’s as much for girls as it is for boys.

PAGE 20

Robert Rodriguez, Jessica Alba and Mickey Rourke bring this long-awaited sequel to the screen at last. / THE WEINSTEIN COMPANY

Uniqlo prepares for its local expansion
PAGE 02

Emmys or VMAs, which are cooler?
PAGE 25

Polyphonic Spree do Metro’s new webcast
PAGE 26

Hey dude, take care of your skin already!
PAGE 28

Herbivores will have a new hot spot now
PAGE 30

Our fantasy football draft guide has arrived
PAGE 34

1 NEWS

Quoted

"People are getting shot as a result of this; businesses are being burned and looted. I mean it just has to stop, and we got to figure out a way to do it."

Philadelphia Police Commissioner Charles Ramsey, speaking to Fox29 about Ferguson, Missouri. Ramsey also serves as president of the Major Cities Chiefs Association.

Top 3

What's trending online at Metro.us

1 'VIDEO: Watch Pierce Brosnan and Jimmy Fallon play "Goldeneye"'

2 'VIDEO: The East Hills shopping mall has the worst commercial ever made'

3 'VIDEO: Watch this tortoise chase a toy truck'

Uniqlo set to transform shopping downtown

Center City. The Japanese retailer is set to open three more local locations this year.

When local fashion historians look back at 2014, those on the retail front will call it the year of Uniqlo — the Japanese clothing brand whose inexpensive but well-made, skinny, rainbow-colored basics have finally found their way to Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey.

Built to compete with fast-fashion retailers like H&M and Forever 21, Uniqlo's takeover of the area started in the King of Prussia Mall during the spring. Yet dotted throughout the year have been pronouncements of upcoming store locations, now focused on late September/early October openings at the Willow Grove Mall, the Cherry Hill Mall, and a 49,000 square-foot, glass front Uniqlo flagship store in Downtown Philly at 1608 Chestnut.

Blame this thrust forward on the focus of Uniqlo's U.S. division and its CEO Larry Meyer.

"I believe that your life is about learning, so I picked up things every step of the way," said Meyer from his office in Manhattan.

"My job is about having the sense as to where things are going — that corporate culture is never about any one individual, but rather the team, that you're always there to serve the customer, and to lead from the middle so that everything runs like a finely tuned car," he added.

Visit **Metro.us** for more on Meyer's vision for Uniqlo in Philly.

Quoted

"I absolutely love the product, and that we make sure it's fashionable, yes, but that it's functional and serves a higher purpose."

Meyer

Fast fashion is here today, gone tomorrow. "That's not Uniqlo. The product speaks for itself once you try it."

And now, Meyer wants the Philadelphia region to know Uniqlo big time. Uniqlo's decision to focus four stores within the Pennsylvania/Jersey market all at once comes down to what Meyer sees as each being quality locations with diverse audiences and a sense of convenience in getting to all of the Uniqlos. "There's more exposure by being in Philly and around Philly all at once. That's the best way to announce our presence."

Meyer, a hands-on CEO, made personal treks downtown to find the right spot for Uniqlo's flagship location, honing in immediately on the heavily trafficked Walnut and Chestnut shopping district between 15th and 18th streets.

Though he's anxious to relaunch King of Prussia for Uniqlo's fall fashions — "Moreno sweater for 39 bucks, parkas you can pull out of bag" — and start the party in Philadelphia, Cherry Hill and Willow Grove, Meyer wants local audiences to know one thing: He thinks our area and his product line is a lot alike. "Philly's both a modern town and a classic city," Meyer said. "The area is reliable, functional and forward. Your populace and our products should be a good match."

A.D. AMOROSI
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Bringing back the barnburners

Nasir Smith, 17, in black, spars against Raul Serrano, 16, at a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new boxing ring at the Marian Anderson Rec Center at 17th and Catherine streets in South Philadelphia. It was hosted by Councilman Kenyatta Johnson and boxers Tim Witherspoon and Garrett Wilson. Right, images of local boxers adorn the walls.

CHARLES MOSTOLLER, METRO

Center City. Lawyer: Nutter should testify

The attorney for the general contractor at the 22nd and Market streets demolition site charged with six counts of murder in last year's fatal collapse wants city officials to testify as defense witnesses.

Contractor Griffin Campbell's lawyer Bill Hobson released his witness list at a hearing Tuesday — which includes Mayor Michael Nutter, Deputy Mayors Everett Gillison and Alan Greenberger and L&I commissioner Carlton Williams. "They have information, both pre-collapse and post-collapse."

Hobson said city officials have knowledge related to discussions on the demolition of the properties belonging to developer Richard Basciano, which were adjacent to the Salvation Army and which collapsed on June 6, 2013, as a result of the demolition. "There was a real big push from March, April before the collapse. That was all Grif Campbell was told, 'Get it done, get it done.'" SAM NEWHOUSE

Quoted

"I believe in good faith they're key factual witnesses."

Hobson

East Mount Airy

Ambulance, cars collide

Five people were injured after an ambulance collided with two cars Wednesday morning in East Mount Airy, police said.

The ambulance, which was carrying another patient in critical condition, collided with two sedans around Chew Avenue and Washington Lane, according to Officer R. Strickland, a police spokesman. TOMMY ROWAN

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South Philly

Eagles seventh most valuable in NFL

For the seventh straight year, the Philadelphia Eagles are the seventh most valuable franchise in the National Football League.

According to the annual Forbes report, the Eagles are worth $1.75 billion in 2014 after reportedly earning $330 million in 2013, the first year under new head coach Chip Kelly.

The Dallas Cowboys came in at No. 1 on the 2014 ranking with $3.2 billion.

It's the team's eighth straight year at the top spot.

Patriots ($2.6B), Redskins ($2.4B), Giants ($2.1B) and Texans ($1.5B) filled out the remainder of the top five.

The Eagles first reached the $1 billion mark in 2006. METRO

Snatching up the Taney baseball gear

Shawn Mathis looks at a Taney Dragons T-shirt at Modell's in Center City. On Tuesday, the store stocked up on previously sold out Taney gear and fans lined up to get shirts, hats and more. The Dragons are en route to a Little League World Series championship behind star pitcher Mo'ne Davis, who is featured on the cover of Sports Illustrated magazine. / CHARLES MOSTOLLER, METRO

Delayed. Response mixed for 'Stuck' app

Apparently, only some of those residents with travel issues are reporting those issues on their phones.

The "I'm Stuck" application, designed by Building America's Future for residents to quickly complain to their state representatives about traffic, travel and infrastructure issues, launched in 2013.

But between two state lawmakers' offices — Senators Bob Casey and Pat Toomey — the results have been mixed.

"I can't definitively tell one way or the other if we're getting calls on it because it would require that person saying, "Hey, I'm calling you with the 'I'm Stuck' app," said Steven Kelly, Toomey's press secretary. "But we have not noticed an uptick in transportation calls."

Sen. Casey's deputy press secretary, Alex Miller, however, said Casey's office has "gotten a couple hundred pieces of mail from the app so far."

Erik Hansen, senior director of domestic policy for the U.S. Travel Association, which recently patterned with BAF to expand the app's services, said they do keep a track of downloads and messages sent.

"But I think the most important data set is whether members of Congress listen," he said.

TOMMY ROWAN

The app

Commuters who ride trains or bicycles, drive cars or fly on planes can submit a grievance with any type of delay or issue.

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Paying homage to one of the best skippers in town

Former Phillies manager Charlie Manuel speaks to longtime fan Robert P. Clark on Wednesday. Manuel spent some time in the afternoon signing autographs and meeting baseball fans who lined up at Tony Luke's in South Philadelphia for "Charlie Manuel Appreciation Day."

CHARLES MOSTOLLER, METRO

South Jersey

Wawa workers catch thief

Employees of a South Jersey Wawa banded together to capture a repeat robber, police said Wednesday.

Gregory Talley, 48, attempted to grab money from a register at the Wawa on Woodlane Road in Westampton Township on Sunday when the cashier and two other workers detained him. Talley allegedly stole $300 in July. METRO

Philadelphia

Longtime KYW host to retire

KYW Newsradio 1060 officials announced on Wednesday that morning co-anchor Harry Donahue is retiring on Friday.

He first joined the station in 1973.

"When I was hired at KYW, I couldn't believe it," said Donahue in a news release. "I've done what I always wanted to do."

Donahue lives in Bucks County with his wife. METRO

Grays Ferry. DA calls for stiffer gun laws at site of child shooting

District Attorney Seth Williams on Wednesday pleaded for passage of a bill that would make the mandatory minimum sentence for illegal gun possession two years, standing around the corner from where Tynirah Borum, 3, was killed by a stray bullet last month.

"I don't want to live in a city where 3-year-olds can't sit on a porch on a beautiful summer evening and have their hair braided without being shot and murdered," Williams said. "We know that those that carry illegal firearms in Philadelphia do so because they intend on harming others."

The bill was introduced by Rep. John Taylor and Sen. Larry Farnese in April 2013.

Ironically, Tynirah's alleged killer, Brandon Ruffin, was released from prison three weeks before the shooting after serving 23 months for illegal gun possession.

Some residents of the neighborhood said they support the bill.

"It's crazy. There's way too many murders around here," said neighbor Kenyatta Harris, 34, whose father was shot to death seven months ago.

"I'm glad they came here," said Adriane Whitehead, 26. "We have to live with this." SAM NEWHOUSE

Two-year minimum

House Bill 1091 and Senate Bill 801 would mandate two-year sentences for illegal gun possession.

- Out of 153 homicides so far in 2014, 85 percent are by handgun. Only one was caused by a person who lawfully possessed a gun.

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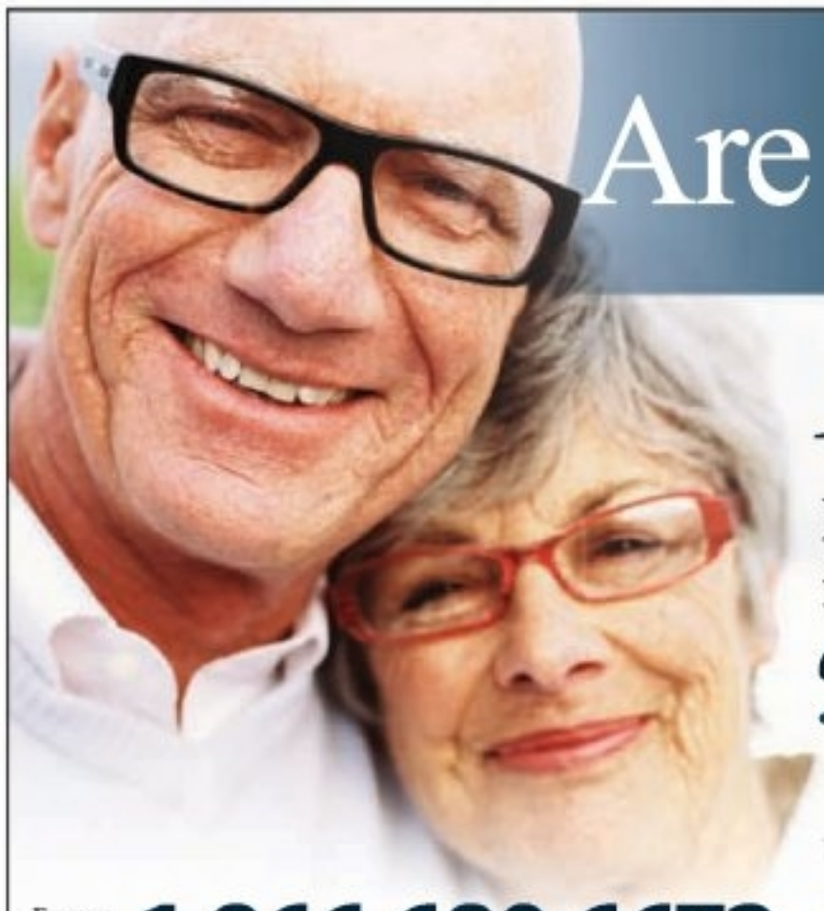

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Attempts made

US military tried, but failed to rescue Foley, hostages

The U.S. military earlier this year carried out an attempt to rescue James Foley and other American hostages held in Syria, a U.S. official said Wednesday, in an operation that the Pentagon said ultimately failed to find the captives.

The unsuccessful rescue operation "involved air and ground components and was focused on a particular captor network within ISIL," the Pentagon said, using a different name for the militant group. "Unfortunately, the mission was not successful because the hostages were not present at the targeted location."

Obama authorized the mission "earlier this summer," Lisa Monaco, Obama's top counterterrorism aide, said. REUTERS

Obama condemns beheading, US strikes militants in Iraq

Islamic State. After the president vowed to protect U.S. citizens, the Pentagon verified 14 air strikes in Iraq.

The use of a British voice may have been intended to make its contents clear to audiences in the United States, Islamic State's declared enemy. / YOUTUBE

President Barack Obama expressed revulsion on Wednesday at the beheading of an American journalist by Islamist militants and vowed the United States would do what it must to protect its citizens as international condemnation of the insurgents grew.

Not long after Obama called Islamic State a "cancer" with a bankrupt ideology, the Pentagon said U.S. aircraft conducted 14 air strikes in the vicinity of Iraq's Mosul Dam, destroying or damaging militants' trucks and explosives.

Islamic State posted a video on Tuesday that purported to show the beheading of journalist James Foley in revenge for U.S. air strikes in Iraq.

U.S. officials said on Wednesday that intelligence analysts had concluded that the video, titled "A Message to America," was authentic. It also showed images of another U.S. journalist, Steven Sotloff, whose fate the group said depends on how the United States acts in Iraq.

Obama called the beheading of Foley "an act of violence that shocked the conscience of the entire world" and said the militants had killed innocent civilians, subjected women and children to torture, rape and slavery and targeted Muslims, Christians and religious minorities. REUTERS

Quoted

"When people harm Americans, anywhere, we do what's necessary to see that justice is done." Obama

Video

The US and British react:

- The video presented Obama with bleak options that could define American involvement in Iraq and the public reaction to it, potentially dragging him further into a conflict he built on ending.
- British anti-terrorist police began an investigation of the video, in which the killer spoke with a London accent.

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2006 Nissan Armada SE $10,900, $229/Month
2009 Nissan Murano $11,900, $249/Month
2012 Nissan Altima 35k Miles/ 3 to Choose! $12,900, $269/Month
2006 Range Rover HSE $14,900, $309/Month
2007 Chevy Trailblazer SS AWD 70k Miles/ LOADED $16,900, $349/Month
2010 Nissan Maxima SV 60k Miles/ LOADED $16,900, $349/Month
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LATE NIGHT SERVICE

Attorney General Eric Holder talks with Capt. Ron Johnson, right, of the Missouri State Highway Patrol at Drake's Place Restaurant in Florrissant, Missouri. / GETTY IMAGES

Attorney general visits racially charged Ferguson

Investigation. Officials began presenting evidence to a grand jury on Wednesday.

Attorney General Eric Holder was visiting Ferguson, Missouri, on Wednesday, hours after nearly 50 protesters were arrested in the 11th straight night of demonstrations over the killing of an unarmed black teenager by a white police officer.

The St. Louis County prosecutor's office also begun presenting evidence on Wednesday to a regularly seated grand jury investigating the Aug. 9 shooting death of 18-year-old Michael Brown.

Prosecuting attorney Bob McCulloch said his office could continue presenting evidence to the grand jury through mid-October as he confronts conflicting pressures for speed and thoroughness.

"On one side, people are saying you're rushing to justice, and on the other side, they're saying you're dragging this thing out," he said at a news conference. "We're going to present this as expeditiously as possible, but we are not going to present it in a half-hearted manner."

Outside McCulloch's office, a few dozen protesters called for him to be removed from the case and for the immediate arrest of the officer involved in the shooting. REUTERS

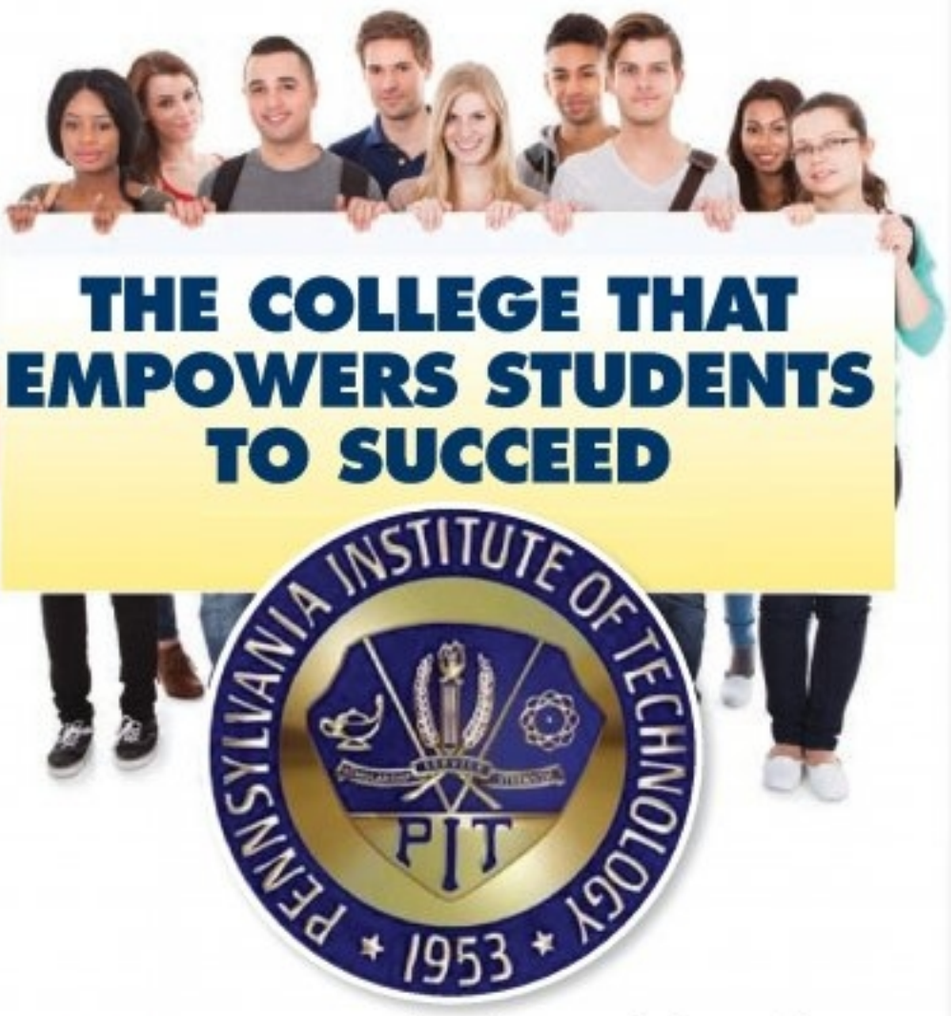
Glass houses

Adversaries lecture US on racial unrest

Governments scolded by the United States over their human rights records have seized on racial unrest and a police crackdown in the Missouri town of Ferguson to wag their fingers back in disapproval.

Adversaries and uneasy allies from Russia and Iran to China and Egypt have accused the United States of hypocrisy as images of police brandishing lethal weapons and tear-gassing protesters have been shown globally. REUTERS

Pennsylvania Institute of Technology



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Crime

Father of Texas 'affluenza' teen arrested

The father of the Texas teenager who killed four people while driving drunk and claimed his family's wealth was partially to blame has been arrested for impersonating a police officer, legal documents showed.

Frederick Anthony Couch was arrested on Tuesday for an incident that occurred on July 28 in the Fort Worth suburb of North Richland Hills.

Couch is the father the then 16-year-old boy who was sentenced to probation for the deadly accident after his lawyers argued that the enormous wealth of the youth's family blinded him to responsibilities resulting from his actions.

An expert witness for the defense described the boy's condition as "affluenza." REUTERS

Hamas: Israel launched a strike to kill military chief

A Palestinian firefighter drags a hose to the site of a destroyed house in Rafah, south of the Gaza Strip. / GETTY IMAGES

Not home. The strike killed the chief's wife and baby instead.

An Israeli airstrike in Gaza killed the wife and infant son of Hamas' military leader, Mohammed Deif, the group said, calling it an attempt to assassinate him after a cease-fire collapsed.

Palestinians launched more than 180 rockets on Tuesday and Wednesday, mainly at southern Israel, with some intercepted by the Iron Dome anti-missile system, the military said. No casualties were reported on the Israeli side.

Egypt, which has been trying to broker a long-term ceasefire in indirect Israeli-Palestinian talks, said it would continue contacts with both sides, whose delegates left Cairo after the hostilities resumed on Tuesday.

But there appeared to be no end in sight to violence that shattered a 10-day period of calm, the longest break from fighting since Israel launched its Gaza offensive on July 8 with the declared aim of ending rocket fire into its territory.

Israeli aircraft carried out more than 100 strikes in the Gaza Strip since Tuesday, Defense Minister Moshe Ya'alon said, the military adding it was "targeting terror sites."

A Hamas official said Deif, head of Hamas' Izz el-Deen al-Qassam Brigades, had not used the targeted house, from whose rubble the bodies of three members of the family that lived there were also pulled out.

Abu Ubaida, a spokesman for Hamas' armed wing, said in a televised statement addressing Israel, "You have failed and you have missed" Deif in the attack.

Chanting "Qassam, bomb Tel Aviv!," thousands of Palestinians later attended the funeral of Deif's wife and son in Jabalya refugee camp. The woman's mother told reporters she wished she had "another 100 daughters" to offer Deif in marriage. REUTERS

Killed

23

Hamas and medical officials said 23 people had died in the latest Israeli raids, including Deif's wife and 7-month-old son.

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Kettell pushes a brussels sprout to the summit of Snowdon in Wales. / VICKY HUBBARD, VICTORIA JANE PHOTOGRAPHY

OMG! Man rolls brussels sprout up a mountain — with his nose

What crazy thing would you do for charity? Whatever it is, it'll be hard to top the efforts of Stuart Kettell, who pushed a brussels sprout up the highest mountain in Wales with his nose. The 49-year-old cameraman took four days to nasally nudge the vegetable to the 1,085-meter summit of Snowdon, raising over $5,000 for the charity Macmillan Cancer Support. Kettell, from Balsall Common, England, is no stranger to wacky charitable feats: He previously walked along every street in the city of Coventry on stilts and ran in a giant hamster wheel. Metro spoke to him on his latest achievement.

Visit us online at **Metro.us/omg** for more interviews.

Why did you pick a brussels sprout?
Some of my ideas, I have to admit, come from having a few glasses of wine and then I start thinking of crazy things. I then tell people, "I'm going to do it," and before I know it I've roped myself into completing it. But this challenge was started by my brother. After seeing a few challenges, he suggested I push a pea up Snowdon next, and that was it. I just couldn't get the idea out of my head, but it didn't work with a pea so we tried a sprout.

Pushing a brussels sprout up anything requires a degree of physical prowess, so would you call yourself an athlete?
I wouldn't say I'm an athlete by any means. Sometimes I don't even train properly, but the adrenaline kicks in to keep me going, with the cancer stories motivating me to finish the challenge. Camping in 40 mph winds with lack of sleep was difficult. But the worst part of the sprout challenge was my knees hurting. By the end of the four days I had no skin left on both of my knees.

You're a veteran when it comes to wacky charity challenges, so what's been your favorite one?
My favorite so far was being locked in a tiny box. It just caught the imagination of everyone and they all helped me get through the week by paying me visits with food and lots of random objects placed in the bucket to keep me entertained.

DMITRY BELYAEV, MWN

Question

What's next for Stuart Kettell?

Next year is still being discussed, and I have several more ideas that will be madder than the sprout.

Question

How does your body feel now?

I am just recovering now about a week later, but still I don't have proper feeling back in my knees.

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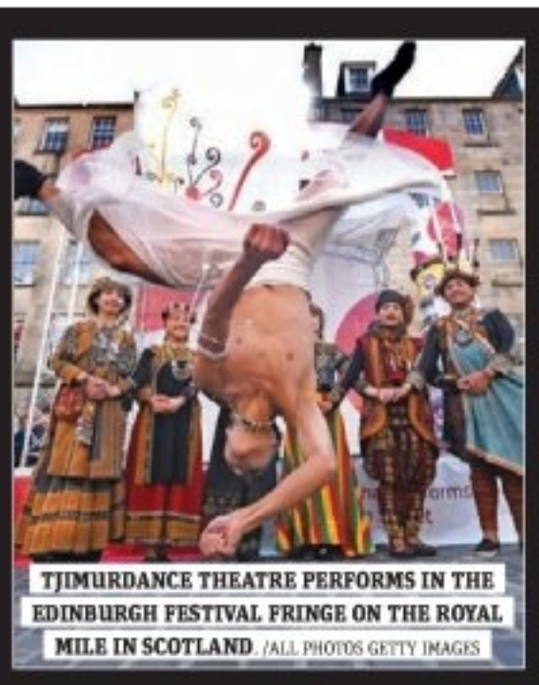

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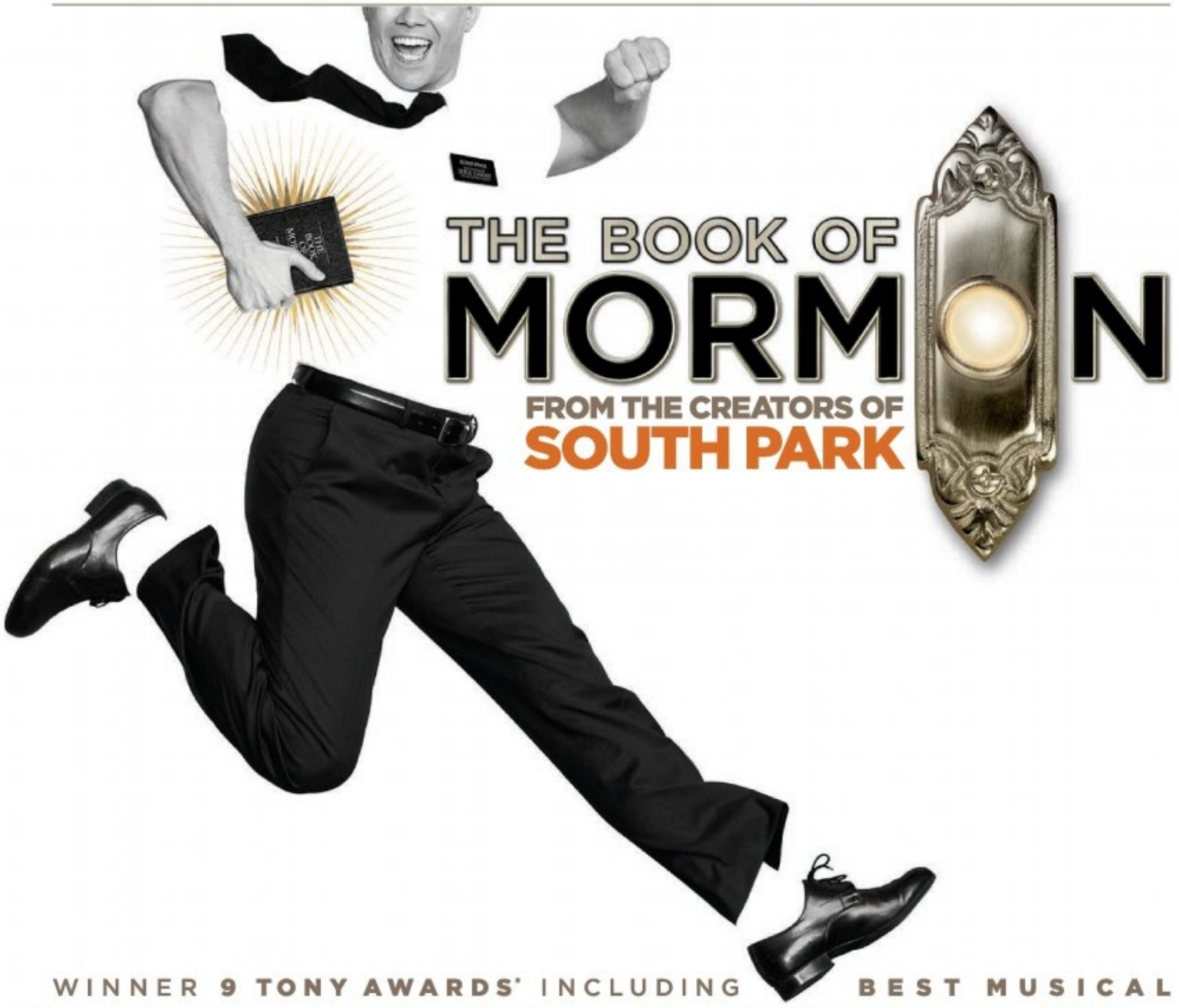

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Just peachy keen

Fruitful summer. The Chic Wife tells us how to use peaches at their peak season.

Kris Schoels, aka The Chic Wife, grew up on a farm with peach trees. / PROVIDED

August is National Peach Month, but Kris Schoels doesn't need a reason to enjoy the delicate summer fruit.

"My favorite part about summer is the abundance of fresh produce, and the warm weather, of course," says the lifestyle maven of TheChicWife.com. "Time spent at the beach, outdoor cooking, bare feet — Shoes are optional starting Memorial Day through Labor Day."

Now at the peak of their growing season, peaches are rich in vitamin C, vision-protecting beta carotene, potassium and fiber. And for Schoels, peaches also carry a special significance.

"I grew up on a farm, and our family had peach trees," she says. "There was nothing better than walking through the fields on a beautiful day and grabbing a fresh peach right off of the tree."

Her mother would then turn those peaches into ice cream throughout the summer, which they would enjoy on the porch during warm nights on the family's rural Virginia farmstead.

Nowadays, Schoels calls New York City home and makes do with visiting farmers markets during weekends in the Hamptons, then spends the afternoon preparing dinner "because in our house, it's the more, the merrier."

It's the versatility of peaches in both savory and sweet dishes that makes them a staple during summer: "You can grill them and drizzle with a balsamic glaze, or serve with ice cream to add another sweet texture," Schoels says. "Peaches also make for a great snack and can be chopped up and used in salsas, salads and as garnishes."

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Recipe. Peaches & Cream Smoothie

Directions

Blend all ingredients in a blender, adding ice for a thicker smoothie. Sprinkle with toppings and enjoy with a spoon!

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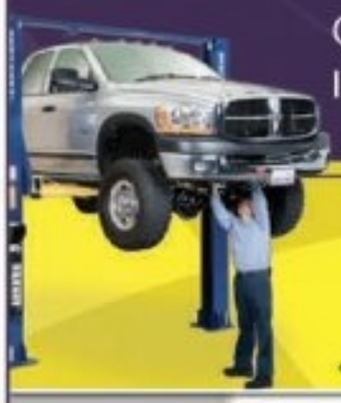

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CULTURE

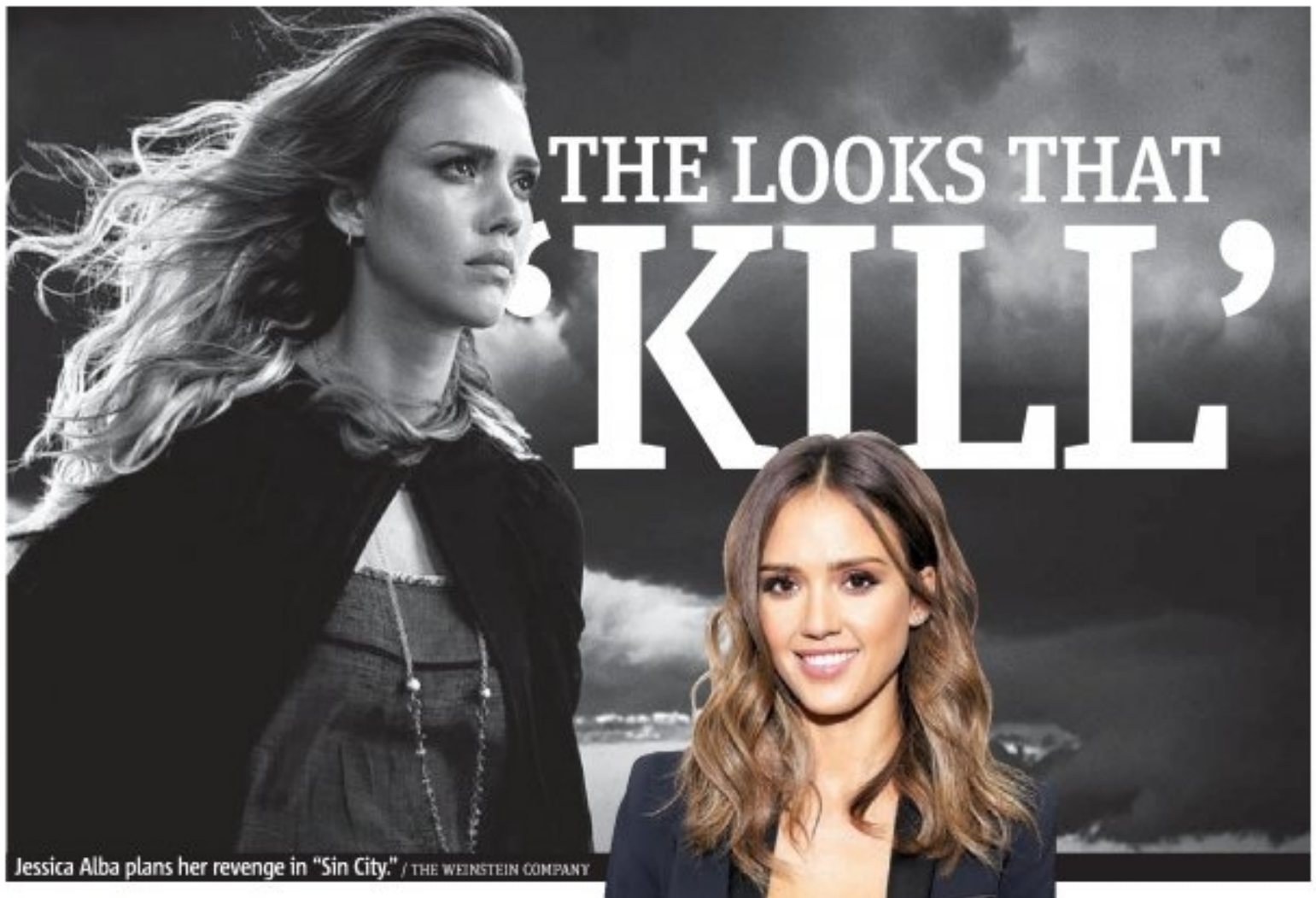
The creator

Of all the intense characters in the "Sin City" universe, vengeful stripper Nancy, played by Jessica Alba, might be series creator Frank Miller's favorite — thanks to Alba's performance. He's found it so inspiring that he's eager to get to work on a third film.

"The original working title for Jessica's story was 'Nancy's Last Dance,' because she had been the abused victim, she had been through the wringer and she had ended up as many women in her situation do, which is as an exotic dancer," Miller says. "This time, she turns into something quite else. And I've already got her next chapter planned, so please show up for the second movie."

Interview. After nearly a decade, Jessica Alba returns to play a vengeful stripper in "Sin City: A Dame to Kill For."

THE LOOKS THAT 'KILL'



Jessica Alba plans her revenge in "Sin City." / THE WEINSTEIN COMPANY

Jessica Alba has gotten used to vague phone calls from director Robert Rodriguez, the Austin-based auteur who has made a habit of putting Alba in his films. "He calls me up and he's like, 'Can you come shoot this little thing?' And I'm like, OK, what is it?' 'Well, it's just this little movie, just come down just for a couple of days,'" Alba says. "That is just what he does, and I am there. I show up every time because it is so inspiring to be in his world, his universe."

"Sin City: A Dame to Kill For" marks Alba's fifth visit to Rodriguez's universe and her second time taking on Nancy, a hard-luck stripper with revenge on her mind. One thing she's learned from her time working with Rodriguez is that he's not big on giving her a head start, so she has to take matters into her own hands. "They snuck the script to me," she says. "I knew Robert was going to call me on Monday and ask me to show up on Thursday, and I wouldn't have any time to prepare."

And it's a good thing she did get her hands on it. "I saw that throughout the script I was in all these dance sequences and she is in different disguises. So I was like, 'I have to learn how to dance different; this is going to be great,'" Alba remembers. "So I worked with a choreographer, [and] I put together costumes and all these wigs and stuff. So I was prepared. And I worked with an acting coach to kind of get in that head space. I'm a mom, I have two kids, I run a company. I am not like this, you know, drunk stripper girl. So I needed to work on it."

Quoted

"If a guy took me on a date to see this movie, I would marry him for sure. [There are] bad-ass chicks, rad dudes who are sexy all over the place and so much cool action." Alba

And while the "Sin City" series might seem geared toward a male demographic, Alba insists there's plenty there for the ladies. "It is actually very powerful for women. I bizarrely think this is the perfect date movie," she says. "Like if a guy took me on a date to see this movie, I would marry him for sure. Bad-ass chicks, rad dudes who are sexy all over the place and so much cool action." It's a shame she's already married, though.

NED EHRBAR
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Tough talk. Robert Rodriguez and Eva Green dish on the skin (or lack thereof) in 'Sin City'

Miller, left, and Rodriguez direct Mickey Rourke. / THE WEINSTEIN COMPANY

In making a Hollywood-friendly adaptation of Frank Miller's gritty "Sin City" graphic novel series, Robert Rodriguez learned that some things have to go — namely some fan-favorite nudity. Case in point: Jessica Alba's character, Nancy, a stripper who is very clothing-averse in the comics. In the film world of Sin City, though, some strippers keep their clothes on.

"You couldn't even find an actress of the caliber of what you want that would consider doing that," Rodriguez says. "I knew Jessica wouldn't do topless, but I wanted her. I could have gotten someone who looks just like the photo but can't act, or we could get Jessica and we could cover her up."

Quoted

"The green screen around you while you're in your tiny thong, it's not that sexy. So you trust the vision, and that it looks stunning. It's art." Eva Green, on nudity

It's only a little awkward, of course, that Rodriguez is saying this while sitting near another of the film's stars, Eva Green, who has no problem going topless — and even sparked some controversy with a revealing poster for the film. "You always feel quite vulnerable when you're naked on the set, and you feel quite silly, actually," Green says. "The green screen around you while you're in your tiny thong, it's not that sexy. So you trust the vision, and that it looks stunning."

But Rodriguez is more than satisfied with the nipple-free result of Alba's performance — especially since a lot of fans apparently let their imaginations fill in the blanks. "Some still think she was naked because she does it so sexy, and some things were exposed," he says. "They ask her about the nudity all the time with the first one. There wasn't any nudity. It was all in your mind." NED EHRBAR

YA weepie. 'If I Stay' has a girlfriend in a coma, and it's way, way too serious

Gayle Forman's best-seller becomes the latest reasonably cheap YA movie extravaganza, with Chloe Grace Moretz playing Mia, a teenage cellist suffering an out-of-body experience after a car crash puts her in a coma.

The lowdown

Like "The Fault in Our Stars," here's a personable, even funny young-adult picture that turns too maudlin as it goes on. The thing is, "If I Stay" is not as personable and gets much, much more maudlin — far earlier. As the ghostly Mia skulks about a hospital, the narrative takes huge dips into her past, where we learn she had cool, middle-aged punker parents (Mireille Enos and Joshua Leonard). Most importantly she had a greasy-haired rocker boyfriend (Jamie Blackley), who was hurt when she had an audition at far-off Juilliard.

For a while, the earnestness in "If I Stay" is touching, especially as it's leavened by blasts of Iggy Pop and The Buzzcocks (plus Beethoven). But Mia's pre-accident problems soon start to seem routine, while the weary hospital business doesn't exactly fit the definition of the word "drama." We're simply stuck waiting around to see whether she dies, killing time with a drama that turns increasingly melodramatic, even for a weepie. **MATT PRIGGE**

Review

'If I Stay'

Director: R.J. Cutler

Stars: Chloe Grace Moretz, Jamie Blackley

Rating: PG-13

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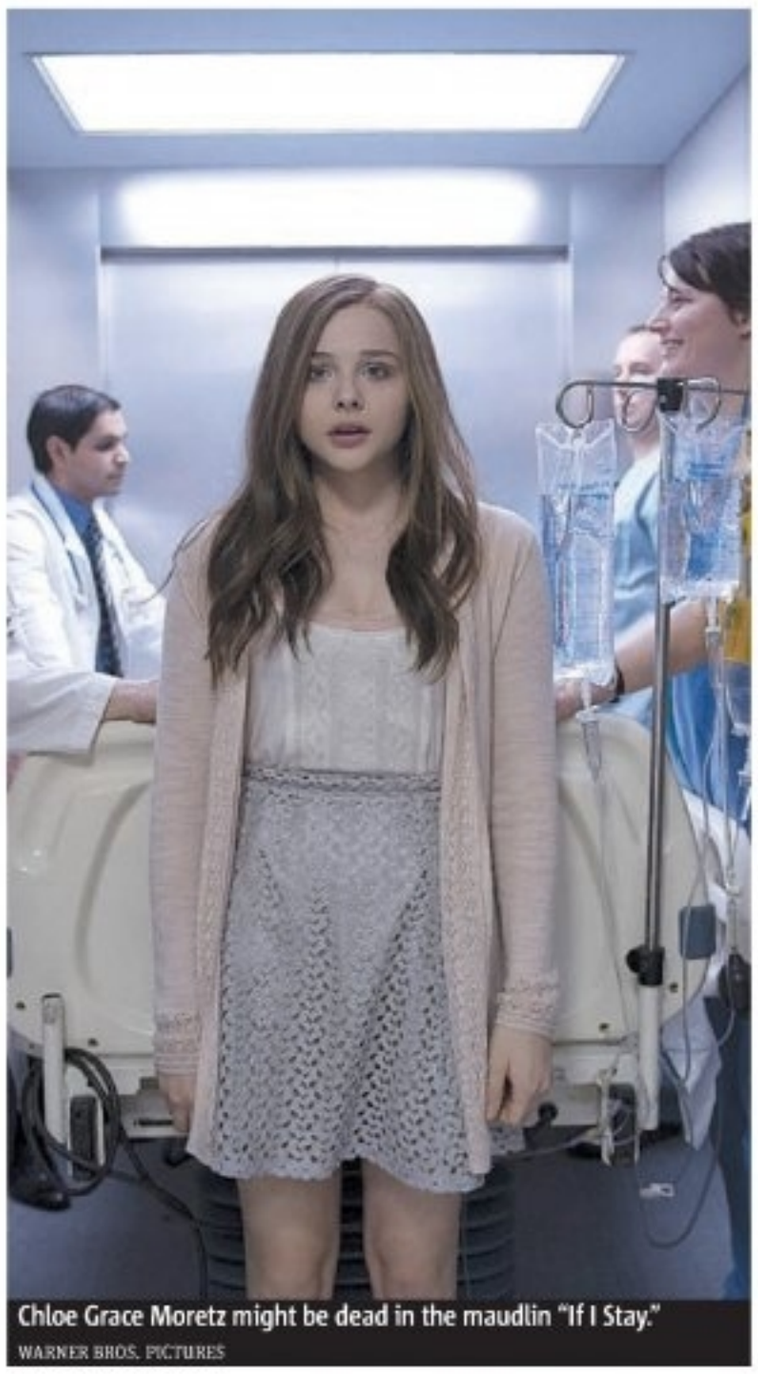

Chloe Grace Moretz might be dead in the maudlin "If I Stay."
WARNER BROS. PICTURES

Review

Jim Caviezel (with Michael Chiklis) is one chill football coach in "When the Game Stands Tall." / TRACY BENNETT

'When the Game Stands Tall'

● ● ● ● ●

The latest inspirational sports docudrama follows one Bob Ladouceur (Jim Caviezel), the legendary coach of the De La Salle High School football team who, at 151 wins, holds the record for the longest undefeated streak in high school football.

The lowdown: This isn't your typical sports saga, which is not always a good thing. For starters, there's Caviezel, who plays the most low-key coach in history. He never raises his voice, never pumps his fist and never seems like he's actually awake. He's so calm that it seems amazing when stress produces a massive stroke, which then seems partially responsible for ending the team's streak.

The story is then how they get their groove back, but that proves easier than expected. In fact, there's not a whole lot of story here, even with the story broadening to cover past players — including one gunned down shortly before heading off to a college scholarship — and a fictional quarterback (Alexander Ludwig) with a hotheaded, borderline abusive football fanatic father (Clancy Brown). And it still finds a way to fit in as many cliches as possible. **MATT PRIGGE**

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Comedy. Michael Fassbender sings through a fake head

'Frank'

• • • • •

One of the world's handsomest actors, Michael Fassbender, disappears behind a goofy papier-mache head as the lead singer of a deafening noise rock band trying to make a record and hit SXSW with their new, possibly too polite keyboardist (Domhnall Gleeson).

The lowdown: Improbably, this goofy tale is rooted in reality. It's based mostly on Chris Sievey, a musician who wore a fake head that looks exactly like the one obscuring Fassbender's face. (There are also bits of Daniel Johnston, Syd Barrett and Captain Beefheart in there.) In fact, "Frank" turns out to be less quirky and twee than deadpan and absurdist, which is to humanity's benefit. Fassbender is still very much present, in his snakelike body movements and dry delivery of some very funny lines. (At one point, to ostensibly make things less awkward for everyone, he narrates his facial expressions.)

"Frank" is also rougher and darker than it could have been, mostly thanks to fellow band member Maggie Gyllenhaal, who never smiles and never misses an opportunity to be mean to Gleeson's nice guy. That makes the perhaps inevitable third-act slide into sadder territory a bit less jarring, even though it winds up going much too far into the real world.

Still, a strong finish atones for the tonal shift, and it's more honest (and, well, frank) about today's music business than "Begin Again." **MATT PRIGGE**

Michael Fassbender, center, has never been more handsome than in "Frank." / MAGNOLIA PICTURES

Review

'Are You Here'

• • • • •

"Mad Men" creator Matthew Weiner goes to the movies with this comedy about a hedonistic weatherman (Owen Wilson) who tries to help a friend (Zach Galifianakis) after his father dies.

Zach Galifianakis and Owen Wilson bro down in "Are You Here." / MILLENNIUM ENTERTAINMENT

The lowdown: There's an admirably ambitious idea here: taking a broad comedy — say, the kind that would star Owen Wilson and Zach Galifianakis — and gradually bringing reality into its goofy confines. But that would require a surer hand than Weiner has here. And he should have it: "Mad Men" is a magnificently controlled machine. And yet "Are You Here" is surreally sloppy, with characters who aren't particularly vivid. They're all stock, such as Wilson as the self-destructive guy who learns he's been crying on the inside. Only Laura Ramsey, as the mistress to Galifianakis' dead father, impresses. **MATT PRIGGE**

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Zombie movie. Death becomes Aubrey Plaza in a weak comedy

'Life After Beth'

• • • • •

Aubrey Plaza turns into a zombie in "Life After Beth." / A24

To the zom-rom-com genre created by "Shaun of the Dead," add this one, in which Dane DeHaan plays a young man who can't quite let go of his girlfriend (Aubrey Plaza), even after she comes back from the dead.

The lowdown: There's a really dark, profound and even much funnier film to be made from this premise, one that looks at grief and our reluctance, if not inability, to let go of those we cherish. But that would take some discipline, and "Life After Beth" has very little. It's a film that needs another three or four (or five or six) drafts to better work out its world — and, more importantly, its notion of undying love. It has lots of promising ideas, but even a gag about zombies adoring smooth jazz is just thrown in there.

In fact, its main problem is it tries to play things too cool. It doesn't commit wholeheartedly to being about a relationship, and as a result has no center of gravity. It's just gags and half-worked-out ideas thrown at the screen. Like Plaza's last major vehicle — last summer's "The To Do List" — it pretends to be above the material, as though sarcasm will save the day. It doesn't, although Plaza at least cares this time: She throws herself into her character's increasingly animalistic behavior, even if she never conveys who Beth was before turning undead. John C. Reilly and Molly Shannon also give actual performances as parents who let their grief cloud their logic. When they're onscreen, "Beth"'s true potential briefly shows. **MATT PRIGGE**

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Who's next on 'Who'

Season 8. The cast and showrunner give us a road map to the intergalactic joyride.

Is the Doctor technically "back" if he's new?

The eighth season of the British sci-fi series about the Time Lord who travels in a blue telephone booth begins this Saturday, and there's a new man at the TARDIS controls: Scottish actor Peter Capaldi.

We caught up with him, co-star Jenna Coleman (the Doctor's companion, Clara Oswald), and showrunner Steven Moffat during the New York City leg of their worldwide press tour to find out what's in store.

Peter Capaldi takes over as the Doctor this Saturday at 8 p.m. on BBC America. / RAY BURMISTON

No in-jokes or references

Capaldi guest-starred in a previous episode, but Moffat said there won't be any nudge-nudge nods in the series. "If you go down that path, I'll be explaining why John Watson looks like Bilbo."

Plot imitates life

Coleman said Capaldi threw "about a thousand options at the wall" while regenerating into Twelve – and it's not the first time she was surprised by him. "It's that thing where instead of going to the room, the room was coming to him. And I feel like he was really bold and brave."

In good hands

"Doctor Who" has been part of Capaldi's life since he was 5 and grew up idolizing the lead actors. "Every day, it's like, it's full of moments that you go, 'Oh, wow, I'm the Doctor, this is amazing!' But think of the first time you make your escape through a ventilation shaft! It's quite special."

EVA KIS
@thisiskis
eva.kis@metro.us

Creativity

Fans' response

Moffat revealed that the new title credits for Season 8 — in which gears morph into revolving planets — was created by a fan who put his work on YouTube. "We give [fans] a show and they give us our show back, sometimes better. It has turned people into actors, it has turned people into writers, it has turned people into scientists. That's an extraordinary thing."

Visit **Metro.us** for a spoiler-free review of Capaldi's first episode.

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Meet the Doctors. He is one man but changes with each new face

9 — Christopher Eccleston

A haunted man running from his past, Nine lived for the moment, enjoying the world he'd saved with a companion who wanted to see it all.

10 — David Tennant

Ten earned a reputation as a protector but could be vindictive. He was also known for his love — sometimes literally — of humanity.

11 — Matt Smith

One of the most iconic Doctors (his bow tie and "Geronimo!" catchphrase helped), Eleven was boisterous, yet melancholy.

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The VMAs vs. The Emmys

MTV's Video Music Awards and television's biggest night are both taking place in the next few days, so we take a look at how the two shows stack up against each other. **LISA WEIDENFELD AND PAT HEALY**

1 Host

VMAs: Lucy Hale (pre-show)

Emmys: Seth Meyers

And the winner is: Emmys

Quick: Name the most memorable thing about Seth Meyers' stint on Weekend Update. Did you name Stefon? Because that wasn't technically him. We're thinking the same policy will apply to his Emmy hosting. If something crazy happens, it's going to be Seth Meyers-adjacent rather than Seth Meyers. But he is friends with a lot of very funny people, so we have high hopes. Also, the Emmys wins this category because the VMAs don't technically have a host; "Pretty Little Liars" star and aspiring country singer Lucy Hale hosts the red carpet.

2 Presenters

VMAs: Demi Lovato, Lorde, Jason Derulo, Laverne Cox, Nina Dobrev

Emmys: Amy Poehler, Matthew McConaughey, Woody Harrelson, Bryan Cranston, Zooey Deschanel, Andy Samberg, Julia Roberts and more

And the winner is: Emmys

As far as presenters go, the Emmys makes the VMAs look JV. Look at the star power there! Plus, most of the TV actors seem natural reading off of a teleprompter. Fingers crossed that Matthew McConaughey wears a customized fanny pack to fully bring that weird fashion accessory back.

SETH MEYERS HOSTS THE EMMYS ON MONDAY AT 8 P.M. ON NBC. GETTY IMAGES

BEYONCE PERFORMS AT THE VMAS ON SUNDAY AT 9 P.M. ON MTV. GETTY IMAGES

3 Potential for scandal

VMAs: While not usually controversial per se, Beyonce needs to do something big to distract everybody from those pesky rumors of domestic distress.

Emmys: Kate McKinnon is nominated for outstanding supporting actress in a comedy series, where a victory for the "SNL" star could be a big upset over Julie Bowen for "Modern Family."

And the winner is: VMAs

Kanye ever interrupted the Emmys? Miley ever gotten busy with a foam finger at the Emmys? Howard Stern ever donned a Fart-Man costume at the Emmys? Nope! VMAs takes it.

4 Best speech

VMAs: With a total of eight noms, Beyonce is also scheduled to perform and receive the Michael Jackson Video Vanguard Award, so she's obviously been practicing some "thank you" moments in the mirror.

Emmys: Julia Louis-Dreyfus always does something hilarious when she wins — last year she had Tony Hale accompany her as his "Veep" character, whispering in her ear about who to thank.

And the winner is: Tie!

At the VMAs, outspoken musicians will likely address the unrest in Ferguson in interesting ways. And with a Robin Williams In Memoriam segment scheduled at the Emmys, there won't be a dry eye in the house.

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Tim DeLaughter, center, says that it is, in fact, quite expensive to tour with a 16-member band. / SHORE FIRE MEDIA

Ask a question

Polyphonic Webcast

Join Metro Music Editor Pat Healy and the band Sunday at 9:30 p.m. for a chat and a performance at www.metro.us/music/polyphonic. Got a question? Tweet #behindthealbum and DeLaughter will answer!

PAT HEALY
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Hooked on Polyphonics

Hot tickets. Tim DeLaughter discusses the ways in which touring with a huge band is both a labor of love and financial insanity.

For the past 14 years, The Polyphonic Spree has been known for packing as many members as possible onto stages and creating music as jubilant and colorful as the uniforms the members don. The songs on last year's "Yes, It's True" album stayed true to that recipe, so it's surprising that there are moments on their brand-new album, "Psychophonic," (which came out last week) that sound a bit darker. It's especially surprising when one considers that every song is from the "Yes, It's True" album but remixed by different DJs.

Detached from the spectrum of The Spree's ornate instrumentation and placed on new backgrounds, the vocals of leader Tim DeLaughter are more raw, and the cold electronics on a song such as "Carefully Try" bring out a desperation not as detectable in the original.

"I knew once we gave the tracks to capable engineers who are DJs that they were going to go crazy with it," says DeLaughter. "I knew they were going to turn it into something that you just wouldn't imagine was there."

When it comes to things you wouldn't imagine were there, seeing The Polyphonic Spree live is so life-affirming that you might not realize the amount of effort that goes into making it work.

"Polyphonic Spree is a labor of love, but it's also a financial insanity," says DeLaughter. "We get paid like a four-piece band, but we have four bands in our band."

DeLaughter has remortgaged his house twice for the band, and they've been signed to and dropped by eight different labels since their start at the turn of the century.

"If you can find something in life that really turns you on, even with the weight of what it takes to make it happen, it's just all worth it," says DeLaughter.

If you go

The Polyphonic Spree

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FRINGE FEST SURPRISES AND IRONIC GRAFFITI

With **FringeArts**' Fringe Fest fast approaching, its culinary enterprises are falling into place. Twenty Manning hosted a preparty for the Sept. 19 fundraiser Feastival, and over at Cook big-name chefs gave a sneak peek of what Feastivalgoers can expect to be eating. **Jason Cichonski** of Ela and Gaslight reflected on why he's enjoyed the annual event from the start — "a dude performed in my face in a silver thong" — before presenting a dish reflecting his Polish heritage: kielbasa meatballs with homemade pretzels. "Top Chef" winner **Nick Elmi** went with a dessert from Laurel (dried strawberries, pureed wild rice chocolate cake), praising Feastival's art fest/food fest duality.

FringeArt's **Nick Stuccio** hinted at Feastival surprises in store — "one could get me arrested," he said — and confirmed the opening date for the restaurant at FringeArts. La Peg, helmed by **Peter Woolsey**, opens Aug 25.

Alex Giannascoli is having the best summer break from Temple University. As **Alex G**, the 21-year-old son of Philly Realtor **Steve Giannascoli** dropped his emotional, electro-folk debut album, "DSU," and got a top rating from Pitchfork and two mentions in Rolling Stone: a review in the **Lana Del Rey** issue and a feature in this week's **Willie Nelson** cover.

Just days after street artist **Shepard Fairey** painted his mural on 1228 Frankford, the site of developer **Roland Kassis**' upcoming boutique hotel, taggers spray-painted the black/red/gold facade. Irony? Meanwhile, Kassis' hotel gained an architect (**Morris Adjmi**) but lost a collaborator (**Stephen Starr** is no longer part of the deal, claims Kassis).

The ALS Ice Bucket Challenge was in full swing Saturday when Hard Rock Philadelphia management participated on Market Street and called out the Philadelphia Eagles. / PROVIDED

BOLDFACE

A.D. AMOROSI

A.D. Amorosi is a journalist covering arts, entertainment and food news and gossip. He can be reached at divaland@aol.com.

Seen on the scene

- 97.5 the Fanatic **DJ Matt Lombardo** was spied at Old City's Old St. Joseph Catholic Church with **Stephanie Paine**, getting married no less. Scandalous. Congrats.
- **Patti LaBelle** was at an event at Stratus Rooftop Lounge, helping **Mayor Nutter** and former **Gov. Rendell** show off what Philly has to offer DNC 2016.

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The truth about men's skincare

Grooming. We clue you in on the beauty routine every guy needs to follow.

Every year, you spend a small fortune on fancy face washes, eye creams, scrubs and serums while the dude in your life reaches for the green bar of soap on sale. It's time for a change. We spoke to Dr. Harold Lancer — famed dermatologist to celebrities including Kim Kardashian, Oprah and Ryan Seacrest — to find out how men can step up their beauty routines.

School them

"The majority of men are lazy. You have to get them to wash their hands in the restroom for crying out loud," says Dr. Lancer. His solution: Drill them with the knowledge you've picked up from years of devouring women's magazines.

"For men, usually whatever's in the shower is good enough. So whether it's bar soap in a cheap hotel or fancy stuff in a salon, men will just use it. They need to be educated on the importance of grooming."

Yup, it's time to exfoliate. / PIXLAND

Don't forget the eyes

- "Eye cream is critically important because the eyelids show age first," says Dr. Lancer. "Very few men want eyelid surgery. So use eye creams to keep that skin preserved."

Exfoliate

Even though the anatomy of male skin is different, when it comes to daily skincare it requires the same maintenance as a woman's, says Dr. Lancer. This means starting with a good scrub.

"The first step is, men need to exfoliate, just like women do, on a daily basis," he says. "Then there's an increased blood flow to the skin, [and] the skin sheds its outer layer and replaces it with newer skin." A bonus: "Since men often wash in the shower, as opposed to a sink, it's even easier for them to use an exfoliant first."

Go ahead and share products

"It's a total fantasy that male and female products need to be different," says Dr. Lancer. "Most women want unscented, high-quality skincare products, and those are the same products that work on men."

But if what's sitting on her bathroom shelf just looks or smells too feminine for you, try Dr. Lancer's skincare line, or see our editor's picks at left for products made specifically for dudes.

Your new daily routine

"In the shower, first exfoliate, then use a cleanser that has grapeseed extract and some sort of protein component to soothe the skin during cleansing," advises Dr. Lancer. "When out of the shower, pat dry and use a moisturizing sunscreen combination."

Men's grooming is on the rise

"When I started my private practice in 1983, there would be one male patient for every two or three hundred female patients," says Dr. Lancer. "In the last five years, it's now two out of 10. Twenty percent of the new patients asking about skincare are men. And the men are doing it for the same exact reason women do — for self-esteem."

TINA CHADHA
@TinaatMetro
tina.chadha@metro.us

PLUS

Editor's picks

Ursa Major

Face wipes, $24, Ursamajorvt.com

Kiehl's

Facial Fuel, $25, Kiehls.com

To selfie or not to selfie, that is the question

Walking down the street in downtown Los Angeles recently, I noticed a man on a Harley pull up and park about 20 yards in front of me. He took his time getting off his bike, removing his helmet and adjusting his leather. His long hair was back in a ponytail; he had a full handlebar mustache and tattoos cascading down both arms.

A mere 10 feet from him, I observed this rough-and-tumble, travel-seasoned rider recline on his bike, pull out a sign that says, "LA, bitches!" and put on the cheesiest open-mouthed smile as he pulled his iPhone out and took a selfie. Clearly, no one is immune.

A sign of insecurity

Selfies aren't just the quintessential example of narcissism; they are a statement that says both "Look at me and what I'm doing!" and "Give me lots of compliments on how awesome I am because of what I'm doing." In short, it reeks of insecurity. In fact, the reason it's called a selfie is that the person taking it is actually alone.

Think about it: You take a selfie because no one is there to take a picture of you. You are by yourself — maybe doing something great, maybe doing something mundane — but you have no one to share it with, so you share it with people you might know or barely know online.

Up: Affair-proof your marriage by spicing up your sex life! Get out of the house and wear clothing that draws them in, not the usual sweats.

Down: Many couples tend to settle in on a few routines in the bedroom. This is one of the most common contributing factors to married people having affairs.

Why do we take selfies?

It's more than just attention that we're seeking; it's validation. But in today's "look at me" world of instant gratification, we post pictures of ourselves, taken by us, in a vain effort to feel good about who we are and what we are doing; in essence, to be viewed by others as important. The saddest part is that we are seeking acknowledgement and a self-esteem boost from people who aren't there.

For exclusive commentary, visit Metro.us/blogs.

Social media warps our reality

The ego strokes we get from selfies and posts set an invisible, unintentional bar for our real-world relationships. We feel good when we get "likes" and "retweets," and our real relationships can start falling short.

Bottom line: Self-esteem doesn't come from a selfie. It comes from within. It comes from feeling good because you like who you are.

Real-world love advice

CHARLES J. ORLANDO

www.theproblemismen.com

Charles J. Orlando is a relationship expert and author of the best-selling book series "The Problem with Women ... Is Men." Find out more about him on his website, or visit him on Facebook for real-world love advice.

What Orlando is into this week

1

You can't "go back" to an old relationship unless you want the same results. Going back to an ex means you will start a new relationship with someone from your past.

2

80%

Studies show 80 percent of women have faked an orgasm in their long-term relationships. Are you one of them?

3

Women can often tell everything they need to know about a man from his kiss.

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What it looks like

The decor

"We're going for something rock 'n' roll but not trashy, especially considering that the space is intimate and charming," says Jacoby.

To that end, she's keeping things minimal and focusing on the surfaces — brick, concrete, distressed plaster — and a muted color palette. "The art really happens in V Street's food," she says. "It's elegant and gritty."

V Street makes veganism sexy

Eat here. The husband-and-wife team behind the lauded Vedge have a new mecca in the works for plant based diet foodies.

If Fall 2014 had a most anticipated restaurant, V Street at 126 S. 19th — a "street food bar" — would likely be it. The aggressively vegan team behind Midtown's Vedge, chef Rich Landau and co-owner/pastry chef Kate Jacoby, Landau's wife, had only dropped hints of V Street's opening and menu items. However, during a chat at the Culinary Concepts pop-up at Cook, they offered an opening date (Oct. 1), insights into V's design (minimalist, edgy) and a handsome sampling of items intended for its menu, along with exclusive plans for others.

Both Landau and Jacoby want diners to expect the same quality, sense of adventure and dedication to vegan ideals at V Street than they get now at Vedge. "At the same time, we want to differentiate them from each other," says Landau, citing Vedge's white linen experience versus V Street's funkiness.

It's all smiles for the V Street team: Rich Landau, Lily Cope, Jeremy Scullin, Lauren Hooks and Kate Jacoby. / REESE AMOROSI

Along with a lower price point than Vedge — "think gastropub, $10 to $12 for mains, $7 to $8 for smaller plates," says Landau — V Street's bold, spicy, ethnic flavors and unpredictable items will make the restaurant a wilder experience. "The flavors are going to be out there," says Landau of the rush that was Choripan, a meaty roasted carrot dish with black lentils and Argentinian chimichurri; Funky Kimchee Stew; and the Eastern European Langosh with creamy sauerkraut dill dip and smoked golden beets.

"We're all over the map — Hong Kong, Mexico, Israel — but you'll never see something easy on V Street's menu," he says.

Kimchee Stew / REESE AMOROSI

"No simple falafel or taco. We get adrenalized doing something difficult."

Landau gave us the exclusive on another V Street dish, the pho, with its emphasis on the French occupation of Vietnam in the French dip (baguettes stuffed with mushrooms with pho broth) and the twist on French onion soup, with pho broth and chili crouton. "V Street will always go for something fun and daring," he says.

A.D. AMOROSI
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MUSIC

Jacco Gardner

Thursday, 8 p.m.
MilkBoy Philly
1100 Chestnut St.
$10-$12, 21+, 215-925-6455
www.milkboyphilly.com
Jacco Gardner is a Dutch psychedelic chamber pop wunderkind who sounds like he hopped in a time machine in acid-soaked London in 1969, briefly stopped to catch a Belle and Sebastian show in 2002, and finally wound up here. His painstaking fidelity to this classic sound is remarkable, but even more remarkable is his ability to make it feel nonetheless contemporary.

Major Van Winkle

Sunday, 7 p.m.
North Star Bar
2639 Poplar St.
$10, 215-627-1332
www.northstarbar.com
"A bunch of samples intertwined, don't feel like naming all of them. Please don't sue me," writes musical collage artist Major Van Winkle beneath one of his YouTube videos. His chilled-out but engaging beats reveal a deep listener — it doesn't surprise us at all that in his bio, he claims to have had Mozart playing by his crib as a baby.

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ARTS

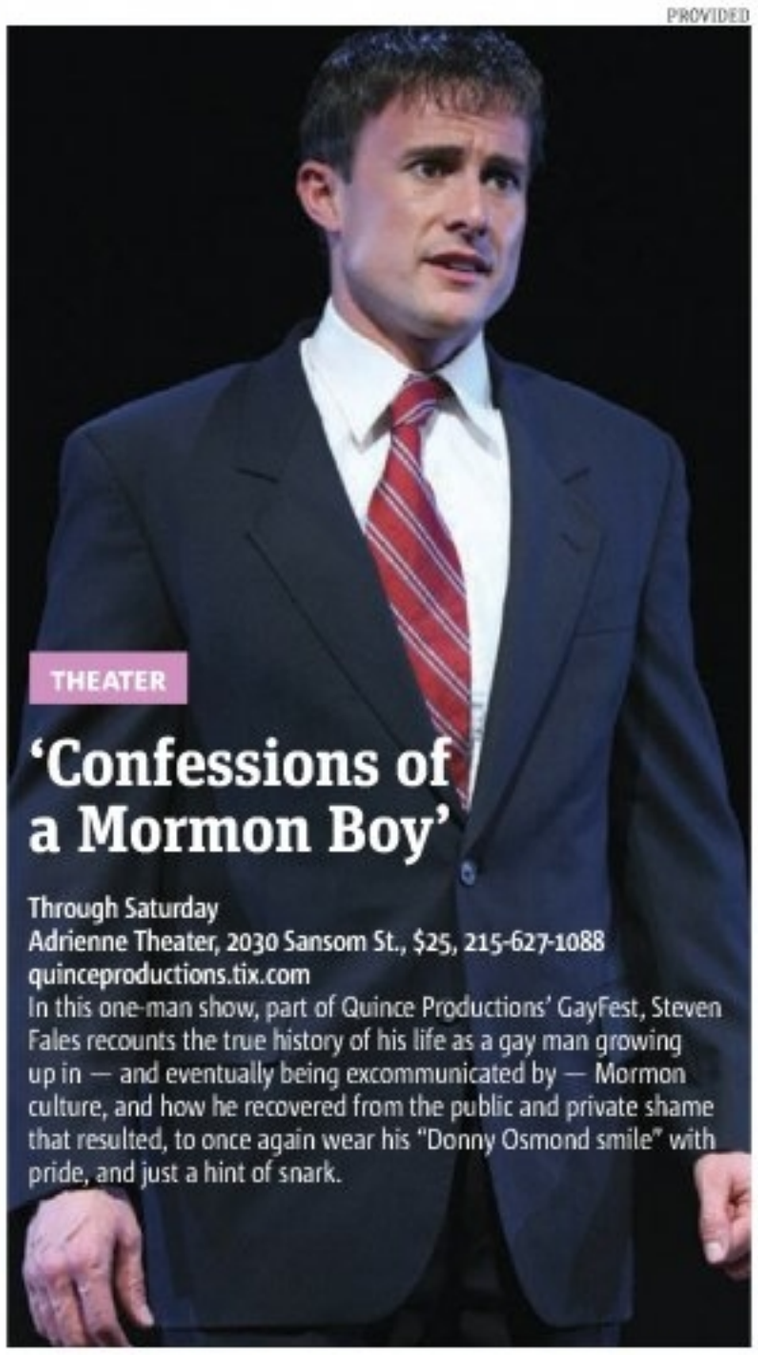
'Then and Now': Works by Anne Minich

Through Sept. 21
Hooloon Art
53 N. 2nd St.
Free, 215-560-8167
www.hooloon-art.com
This collection of mostly drawings by Anne Minich has a minimalist intensity. Many of the images are of anonymous female torsos; sometimes male ones appear, too, but we see no faces. Sexuality is shown, sometimes humorously, in its alienating, ambivalent dimension. To look on the most striking of these images is to see your own body as an eerie stranger.

'One ... Respe!': Art from Haiti

Through Oct 4
Indigo Arts Gallery
1400 N. American St. No. 104
Free, 215-765-1041
www.indigoarts.com
This exhibition features a wide variety of contemporary Haitian art — mostly paintings with a few sculptures — and the best of it is stunning in its iconic power and vivid imagination. The show's title comes from a traditional call-and-response greeting in Haitian Creole: The greeter shouts "one," which means "honor," and the greeted shouts back "respe," which means "respect."

PROVIDED



THEATER

'Confessions of a Mormon Boy'

Through Saturday
Adrienne Theater, 2030 Sansom St., $25, 215-627-1088
quinceproductions.tix.com
In this one-man show, part of Quince Productions' GayFest, Steven Fales recounts the true history of his life as a gay man growing up in — and eventually being excommunicated by — Mormon culture, and how he recovered from the public and private shame that resulted, to once again wear his "Donny Osmond smile" with pride, and just a hint of snark.

GOING OUT

Cooking Up Couture

Friday, 7 p.m.
Front and Palmer
1750 N. Front St.
$75-$95, 21+, cookingup couture@gmail.com
www.cookingupcouture.com
This benefit for the hunger-fighting nonprofit Philabundance — specifically its Philabundance Community Kitchen, which provides culinary training for disadvantaged individuals to get a leg up in the food service industry — brings together the worlds of food and fashion, with a runway show and food served up by a number of award-winning chefs, including Nick Elmi of Laurel and Brad Spence of Amis.

COMEDY

'Trey Parker and Matt Stone vs. Mike Judge Burlesque'

Saturday, 9 p.m.
PhilaMOCA
531 N. 12th St.
$13-$15, 800-838-3006
parkerandstonevsjudge.brownpapertickets.com
This neo-burlesque show's theme pits the two great poles of crude-yet-intelligent comedy against each other. In one corner, you've got the twin minds behind "South Park" and "The Book of Mormon" (now at the Forrest Theatre); in the other, the creator of "Beavis and Butthead" and "Office Space." In both corners, you have campy humor and sexy dancing. Sounds like a win-win.

GETTY IMAGES

MOVIES

'Star Trek III: The Search for Spock'/'Dune'

Saturday, 8 p.m.
International House Philadelphia
3701 Chestnut St.
$10-$15, 215-387-5125
www.ihousephilly.org
This sci-fi double feature presents two weird, undervalued selections from the '80s. True, "The Search for Spock" doesn't beat its predecessor, "The Wrath of Khan," but it progresses the plots and themes of "Khan" in fascinating ways, while David Lynch's "Dune," however lacking it is in narrative cohesion, remains a work of impressive visual imagination — and Sting is in it!

TOURS

PROVIDED

'Hotties of Laurel Hill: Dead, Gone, and Extremely Handsome'

Thursday, 6:30 p.m.
Laurel Hill Cemetery
3822 Ridge Ave.
$15, 215-228-8200
www.thelaurelhillcemetery.org
Laurel Hill Cemetery's Antemortem Society gives a whole new meaning to the term "dead sexy" with this tour, stopping at the graves of some of the (formerly) best-looking people buried on its spacious grounds. Along the way, you'll hear snippets from romantic letters and saucy tales that put into question the notion that Victorians were all "repressed."

MUSEUM

'Pinned! Insect Art, Insect Science'

Through Nov. 9
Academy of Natural Sciences of Drexel University
1900 Ben Franklin Pkwy.
$14-$16, 215-299-1000
www.ansp.org
Among insect species are some of the most colorful living creatures. Artist Christopher Marley took advantage of the rainbow of insect pigmentation to create the mosaics in this exhibit, which are composed entirely of pinned insect specimens. It's accompanied by additional specimen from the collection of the Academy of Natural Sciences, and info about the entomological practice of bug pinning.

'Suited for Space'

Through Nov. 14
Chemical Heritage Foundation
315 Chestnut St.
Free, 215-925-2222
www.chemheritage.org
It's so common nowadays to hear about people going into space that it's easy to forget what a technologically complex undertaking it is. This traveling exhibition from the Smithsonian Institution details the features of space suits and the evolution of their design with many authentic historical and contemporary examples.

MATTHEW DINARO

MUSIC

Sounds of Inspiration

Saturday, 3 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Great Plaza, Penn's Landing
101 S. Columbus Blvd.
Free, 215-922-2386
www.delawareriverwaterfront.com
This gospel blowout, with singers ranging from contemporary to traditional, is one of the most popular concerts taking place at Penn's Landing every summer. Highlights of the 2014 lineup include Smokie Norful, Kierra Sheard, VaShawn Mitchell, Micah Stampley, Brian Courtney Wilson and Anita Wilson — and that's not even half the list. Expect a joyful noise to emanate from the general vicinity on Saturday evening.

KAREN CLARK SHEARD IS ONE OF THE MANY GOSPEL LEGENDS PERFORMING SATURDAY.

PROVIDED

Letters

Learn from Churchill

The difference between Winston Churchill and President Barack Obama is enormous. When in 1940, near the beginning of World War II, England stood all alone against Nazi Germany, Winston Churchill rallied his people and led the war effort to continue despite their "war weariness." By contrast, Barack Obama has made no such visible effort. His style of leadership seems to be to "lead from behind" which means pass the buck or let someone else lead. To the terrorists of the world, this means cowardice or exhaustion, and that is a clear invitation for them to move forward on their terrorist agenda.

ARTHUR HORN, VIA EMAIL

New brides don't need more clutter

Re: 'Oh, you should have!' (Metro, Aug. 20) Does anyone happen to remember that this paper's targeted readers are people living in the city? And now, your recommendation for a bridal registry is a cheese board that costs $105? Salt and pepper shakers that cost $30? A godd–n ring holder that costs up to $48? Are you out of your minds? I am 30 years old, I live outside of the city, I have a good job and I pay my taxes. I'm also getting married in October. And never, ever in a million years would I ask anyone to waste their hard-earned money on a $275 plant holder.

JENNIFER MATRONE, VIA EMAIL

Wednesday's answer

COLD AND WET FOR A GOOD CAUSE

Opinion

TOM FOREMAN

POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT FOR CNN

When my Facebook, Twitter and Instagram feeds started filling with videos of people being doused with water, I was alarmed. Where were all the pictures of adorable kittens playing saxophones, teenagers crashing their bikes and delicious food that I had come to rely on?

I was getting nothing but a stream of lunatics pouring ice water over their craniums, howling about the cold and then suggesting that somehow this could help cure a dreadful malady, ALS, sometimes called Lou Gehrig's Disease.

My B.S. antennae shot straight up. I am deeply suspicious of slacktivists. You know, people who confuse clicking "like" or retweeting a picture for actually making a difference in a serious matter. Word to the wise: You can pass around photos of suffering people all morning, add your name to online petitions all afternoon and then go to a fancy dinner packed with wannabe altruists and none of it will help a damn thing unless somehow all those good thoughts are turned into action.

So when a friend sent the #ALSicebucketchallenge my way, I had a decision to make. Would I join the parade or stand on my principles against false, feel-good preening? Then I did a little research and found, much to my surprise, that this is the real deal.

According to the ALS Association, donations for the first 20 days or so of August last year amounted to $1.9 million. This year, the same period produced $31.5 million and almost 638,000 new donors. What's more, people all over the country are presumably asking (at least I hope they are): What is ALS? In clinical terms, it is a disease that attacks nerve cells and killing muscles, leading to paralysis and eventually death. In human terms, it is just awful.

I'm not a big "cause" guy, and I virtually never ballyhoo publicly for such things. But this particular movement has real momentum, and if all that money can be turned into real action to help researchers find a cure, that really matters. So I donated and yeah I got all wet (the proof is on my FB page, check it out). I hope you do, too.

CNN=POLITICS

Sudoku: Easy and hard

				5			6	
2		5		3				
					7	2	1	5
6	5			4	1		9	
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				6		7		2
	3			8				

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3		4				9		2
	5				1		4	
		1		7				
5	8		1					
9		7		3	8		5	

How to play
Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Horoscope

♌ Leo | July 23-Aug. 22. Keep your reputation intact by finishing what you start. If you focus on accomplishments, someone will recognize what you have to offer and be willing to pay for your services.

♍ Virgo | Aug. 23-Sept. 22. Turn on the charm today. You will impress people with your ideas if you take the time to schmooze. Trying to force your opinions will slow things down.

♎ Libra | Sept. 23-Oct. 22. Look over your shoulder. Someone will try to make you look bad or take advantage of you. Keep your eyes open to avoid being taken by surprise.

♏ Scorpio | Oct. 23-Nov. 21. If you deliver your ideas with confidence, your communication skills will impress your business associates. A trip will be enlightening, rendering a decision easier to make.

♐ Sagittarius | Nov. 22-Dec. 21. Make your own decisions. Don't let someone else's opinion deter you from going where you need to go or doing what you want. Keep an eye on your wallet and valuables.

♑ Capricorn | Dec. 22-Jan. 20. Partnership worries will surface. Avoid getting into a battle of wills just because you don't share the same ideas. Agree to meet others halfway.

♒ Aquarius | Jan. 21-Feb. 18. Researching a matter that appeals to you will help broaden your knowledge. Work-related issues will turn in your favor. Be vocal with your ideas.

♓ Pisces | Feb. 19-March 20. Be careful not to overlook the youngsters in your life. You can get a whole new perspective on a situation if you listen to the innocence of a child's point of view.

♈ Aries | March 21-April 20. You are likely to hear complaints if you have been neglecting your chores. Get caught up in order to leave more time to explore your own interests.

♉ Taurus | April 21-May 21. Have some laughs today. Take a trip someplace novel, or just get together with special friends. A good time will make you feel refreshed and ready to conquer the world.

♊ Gemini | May 22-June 20. Use your ingenuity to clear up pending legal matters. Someone will look to you for assistance. Be wise in your assessment of the situation.

♋ Cancer | June 21-July 22. Focus on home, family and domestic matters. You can minimize personality clashes by keeping your thoughts to yourself. Sit back and listen.

EUGENIA LAST

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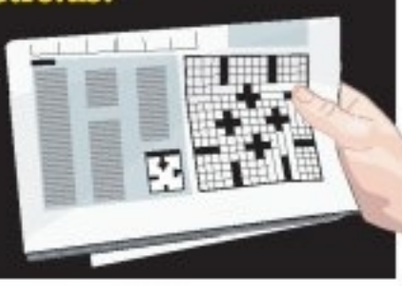

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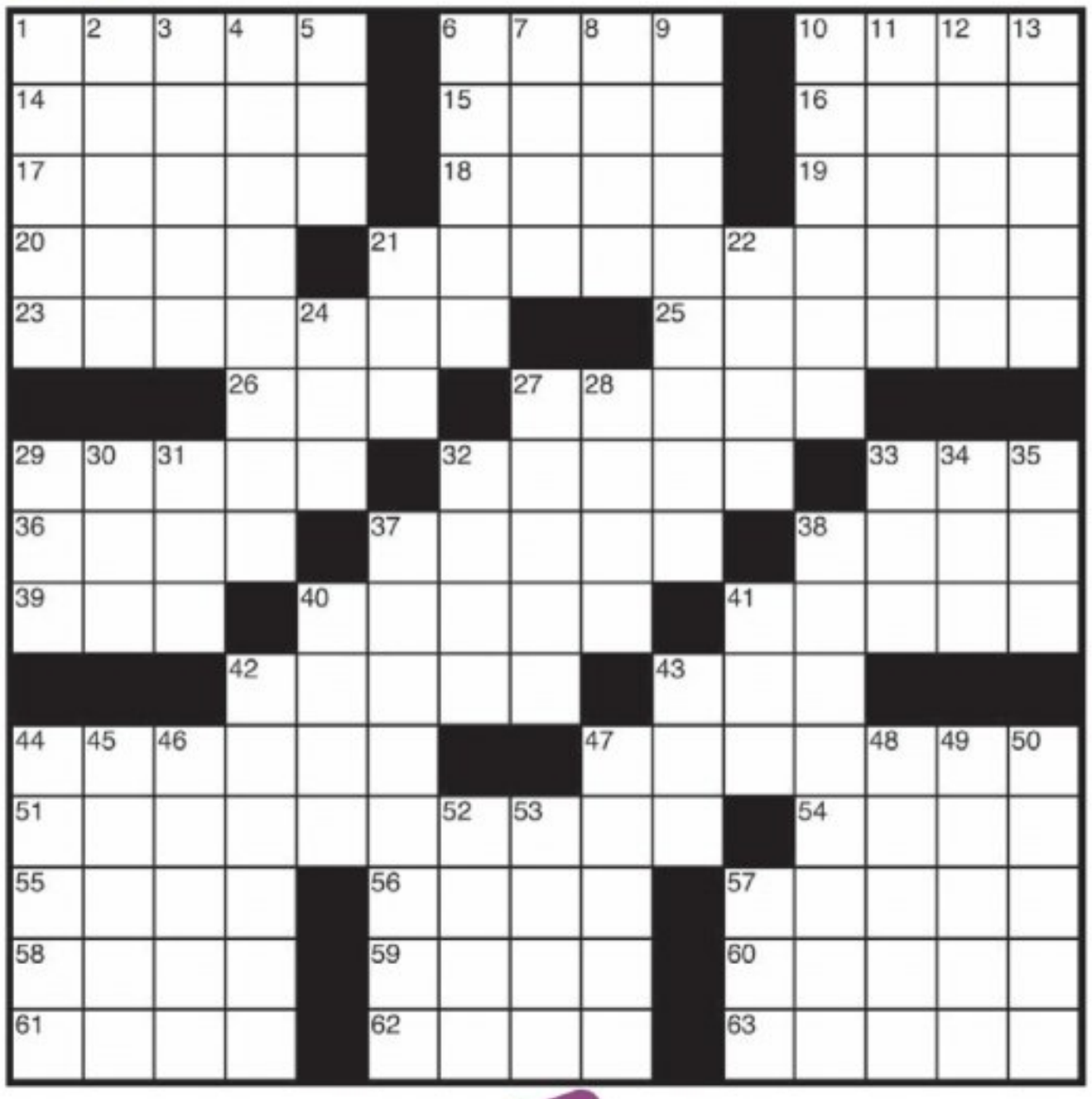

Across

1 Pulls over
6 Beside oneself
10 Groom a poodle
14 Tooth type
15 French Legion headgear
16 Dog owner's shout
17 Ekberg of films
18 Cloudburst
19 Slow-moving beasts
20 Guns the engine
21 Picture portion
23 Quisling's crime
25 Makes like a snake
26 Chore
27 Egg protector
29 Cosmopolitan
32 Savory smell
33 JAMA readers
36 Castle, in chess
37 They curl your hair
38 Whining noise
39 Open meadow
40 Swatches
41 The thick of things
42 Davenports
43 Move jauntily
44 Addison's partner
47 Soft drink (2 wds.)
51 Boonies
54 Pumice source
55 Help with a heist
56 Trevi Fountain site
57 Saunter along
58 Icy coating
59 McClurg or Brickell
60 — nous
61 Singer — Ballard
62 Hoofed animal
63 Striped stone

Down

1 Chic
2 Copier ink
3 Relish tray item
4 "Wheel" host (2 wds.)
5 Mexican Mrs.
6 Goodyear's home
7 Backpacker's load
8 Mayberry kid
9 Cotton fabrics
10 Select
11 BMW alternative
12 Sherlock's lady friend
13 Hangs fire
21 Palm off
22 Beatles' "Meter Maid"
24 Hoss, to Ben
27 Wheat and corn
28 Silver and Howard
29 Web addr.
30 Unhatched fish
31 Python or wrap
32 Diva's rendition
33 Served, as time
34 TLC providers
35 Police dept. rank
37 Deduced
38 Speed (2 wds.)
40 -- amandine
41 In vogue
42 Parlor piece
43 Physique
44 Swimming hazard
45 Fibula companion
46 Us, to Pogo
47 Deride
48 Tasty carbohydrate
49 Not hidden
50 Check endorser
52 Mineral deposit
53 Yves' girl
57 Drop— — line

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3 SPORTS

Schilling battles

Phils great blames chew

Onetime Phillies great Curt Schilling, who helped lead the 1993 Phils to the World Series finally went public about the type of cancer he was diagnosed with — squamous cell carcinoma, a type of mouth cancer. During his tough recovery he has lost 75 pounds. He blames chewing tobacco for the illness. "I do believe, without a doubt, unquestionably that chewing was what gave me cancer," he said.

FANTASY FOOTBALL GUIDE: KICKOFF TIME

A "zero-RB" draft strategy would have worked to perfection last season. Owners that passed on running back busts like Trent Richardson, C.J. Spiller and David Wilson laughed all the way to the bank as they rode safe receivers like Calvin Johnson and A.J. Green. So with the 2013 outcome as a backdrop, many are wondering if we're entering a new age in fantasy drafting — one where running backs take a backseat. Good idea? Nope. Here are three tips for drafting this year:

Back to the backs

Yes, running backs have the highest bust rates and get hurt the most. But they also have the most week-to-week consistency and are the scarcest position in fantasy, which is why the first five names on my personal board (and seven of the top-12) are all running backs. When it's time to go to the waiver wire in Week 4, we all know that receivers and quarterbacks will be readily available, while running back options will be almost nil.

Stick with plan

Now that we've established a lean toward running back, it doesn't mean we should stray from our board. The top two tiers of wideouts (along with Jimmy Graham) are incredibly safe and come with plenty of upside, and I'm OK with emerging from the first two rounds with zero RBs — especially in shallower 10- or 12-team leagues. We just need to be sure to get in on the Gio Bernard, Andre Ellington, Shane Vereen types in Rounds 3-5.

Eddie Lacy and the Packers offense should be dominant in the NFC this season. / GETTY IMAGES

Local picks

- **LeSean McCoy:** Gets the nod over Charles and AP thanks to superior offensive line and age (26).
- **Zach Ertz:** A mismatch waiting to happen at 6-foot-5 and 250 pounds. Will be a target monster in red zone.
- **Jeremy Maclin:** Chip Kelly's scheme produced a career outlier season for DeSean Jackson in '13.

Wait on QBs

Peyton Manning, Drew Brees and Aaron Rodgers are going to have great seasons. But they're not worth a first- or second-round pick when we can get Jay Cutler, Matt Ryan or Tony Romo in the ninth round. Quarterback is the deepest position in fantasy, we only start one of them a week and they sustain health better than the other positions. There's little reason to make a big investment on them early on in your fantasy draft.

FANTASY SPORTS
ADAM LEVITAN
alevitan@metro.us

Top 8 overall

1. **Adrian Peterson** — Nope, it's not 2010. But he's still got it.
2. **Jamaal Charles** — Chiefs back can do it all.
3. **LeSean McCoy**— Shady can also do it all.
4. **Matt Forte** — Thriving under Marc Trestman.
5. **Eddie Lacy** — Could win you your league single-handedly.
6. **Calvin Johnson** — Twelve TDs in 2013.
7. **Arian Foster** — A risk still worth taking.
8. **Jimmy Graham** — Best TE on the board.

Top positional busts

- Nick Foles, QB, Eagles
- Le'Veon Bell, RB, Steelers
- Pierre Garcon, WR, Redskins
- Vernon Davis, TE, 49ers

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Bird's-eye view

Eagles vs. Steelers: Three things to watch

As far as the preseason goes, this is the climax. Game No. 3 is typically where the first team gets the majority of the reps and fans can get a real feel for the team for the first time. Here are three things to keep an eye on when the game kicks off at 7:30 p.m. at Lincoln Financial Field:

1 It's moving day
Most eyes will be intently tuned to the Eagles first-teamers — Watching how LeSean McCoy bounces back from a toe injury and how the defense bounces back from a terrible showing in New England. But NFL teams are required to cut from 90 to 75 players by Tuesday. Watch the second and third stringers as they give it their all to make Chip Kelly's roster.

2 Who's healthy at wide receiver?
Philadelphia might have some depth problems at wide receiver when the season starts. With Jeremy Maclin and Riley Cooper continuous question marks and Josh Huff expected to miss the rest of the preseason, Jordan Matthews and some undrafted free agents like Arrelious Benn, Jeff Maehl and Ifeanyi Momah have a golden opportunity against the Steelers to play their way into Week 1.

3 Backing up the best
Lets be honest, Darren Sproles, who is versatile and will get a lot of touches this season, isn't exactly LeSean McCoy's backup. With Chris Polk's status unknown (he missed practice Tuesday) coach Kelly brought in former Oregon back Kenjon Barner due to his familiarity with the Kelly system. Will this acquisition light a fire under Matthew Tucker or Henry Josey? There is no clear backup for McCoy yet. Stay tuned. **EVAN MACY**

DARREN SPROLES IS EXPECTED TO GET MAJOR TOUCHES FOR THE EAGLES IN 2014. GETTY IMAGES

MLB. Phillies, Hamels hang on to beat M's, win series at home

Hamels' 2.53 ERA is fifth best in the National League. / GETTY IMAGES

It wasn't Cole Hamels' best, but baseball is a funny game.

After failing to earn a win in back-to-back seven-inning performances that saw Hamels at the peak of his dominance, the lefty went only five innings and allowed nine hits but earned a victory in a 4-3 decision against the Mariners.

The Phillies took the series 2-1 in Seattle's first-ever trip to Citizens Bank Park.

Chase Utley drove in the go-ahead run on an RBI single in the fourth inning, a three-run output for Philadelphia that also saw Ben Revere pick up an RBI and Wil Nieves score on a passed ball.

The Phillies bullpen was at the top of its game as Jake Diekman, Ken Giles and Jonathan Papelbon combined to allow just three hits in four innings of relief.

The Phillies have an off-day Thursday before hosting another non-division opponent for a three-game set.

The Cardinals make their trip to South Philly starting Friday with Kyle Kendrick (5-11, 4.90) looking to bounce back after blowing a five-run lead in his last start out west in San Francisco.

The Phillies remain in last but move to within 3 1/2 games of the Mets for fourth in the NL East. **METRO**

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Cody Asche is looking more like a big leaguer in his second season with the Phillies. / GETTY IMAGES

Asche happy at hot corner

MLB. The Phillies third baseman talks to Metro about hitting, adjusting to the bigs, his teammates and childhood dreams.

Maikel Franco might be one of the September callups, according to Ruben Amaro.

If that's so, it's a certainty that the Phillies top prospect will play some third base.

Not a big deal to the unflappable Cody Asche, who is finishing up his first full season as a MLB starter at the hot corner.

Asche tells Metro about the ups and downs of his first full season, what it's like to sit between Chase Utley and Ryan Howard in the clubhouse every day and what player he obsessed over while growing up in Missouri.

What baseball player did you grow up watching?
Ken Griffey [Jr.]. He was the reason I watched "SportsCenter." I wanted to see if he hit another big homer, so I tuned in every night for him. I loved watching him play. He was my favorite player.

Did you emulate his swing as a kid in the backyard?
No, because I couldn't hit like him. I tried it while playing wiffle ball but it didn't work. I still can't hit like him and I'm not trying to. I can only hit like me.

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The facts about Asche

Cody Asche has a lot of upside and at age 24, the Phillies hope he can be a solid part of the lineup for years to come. Here are the basics on the easy-going player.

- Asche was drafted by the Phillies out of the University of Nebraska in the 4th round of the 2011 MLB entry draft.
- He made his big league debut last season on his 23rd birthday (June 30)
- In 59 games last year he batted .235 with five homers and 22 RBI.
- This season, Asche missed some time due to injury but is improving, batting at a .251 clip.

Playing with the best

"I'm just trying to get better everyday and be like a sponge." Asche

When you look back at your first full year in the major leagues, what comes to mind?
There's been a lot of good and some not so good. You just can't get too far up or down.

I've had my share of growing pains, just like every other young player. Not everyone can be an impact player out of the gate like Mike Trout.

It must help considering where you sit in the locker room.
Without a doubt. You can't help but learn some things seated between Chase Utley and Ryan Howard. The guy next to me [Utley] has played at such a strong level for 12 years up here. What I get from him is that you have to be mentally strong.

A lot of this game is about focus. Sure, it's physical on the field but there's the mind games. Look at the guy over there [Jimmy Rollins]). That guy is our all-time hit leader. He's mentally strong as anyone

I've ever met. I've learned so much about the mental side of this game. I picked their brains. It's a great situation I'm in.

You're in the middle of veterans, who know how to win, but the clubhouse is also full of guys you came up with.
That is great for me. You got Ruffy [Darin Ruf] over there and I played with him for two-years down there. You have those guys there [Jake Diekman, Justin DeFratus] and KG [Ken Giles] who were with me as well.

We're young and came up together. What people don't know is that how I relax is by joking around with them. We keep each other loose.

We're dead serious when the fans see us, but the reality is that we keep our sanity by joking around in here behind closed doors. We have a good time together.

You need to during a long season.

You've come quite a way defensively over recent weeks. Is that due to repetition?
Absolutely. The more reps the better. Game experience is what it's about. The more that's hit to me, the better I become.

You hit a wall last season, but you adjusted well this season. You fared pretty well facing a succession of pitchers you've never seen before.
That's due to focus. It's not easy seeing so many guys the first time out but you do your best with it.

When you see a guy two or three times, you know his tendencies. Everybody asks me about the big jump from Triple-A to here and you know, there's guys that can pitch really well at that level.

They're not quite ready for this level yet but there are tough pitchers down there. I learned as much down there and I'm learning every day here.

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Watch your back

Asche not worried about losing job

Does it cross your mind that Maikel Franco might be a September call-up and play some third base?
I can't worry about anything I can't control.

How tough has it been breaking in with a team that's been in last place for much of the year?
I'd rather be winning but it's still baseball, whether you're losing or winning here or if you're in Triple-A or wherever. I love playing baseball. It's been a tough year, but I want to be part of it here now and when we turn it around. ED CONDRAN

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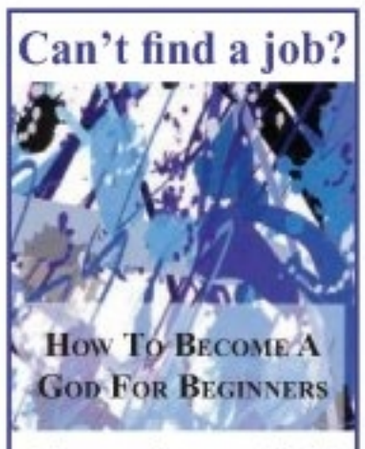

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